

COUNCIL LAUNCHES CALIFORNIA HUMANITIES NETWORK;

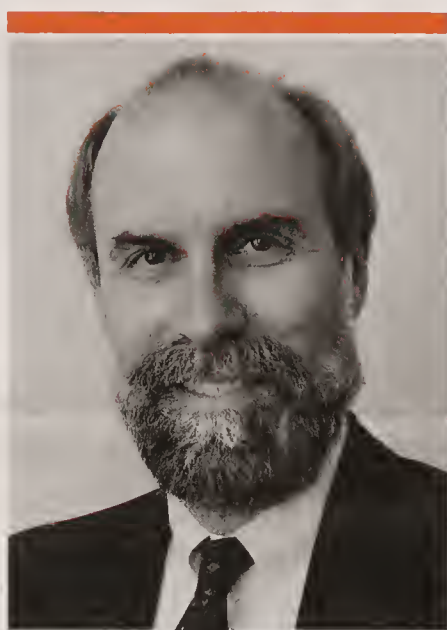
by James Quay
Executive Director

I'm pleased to announce that in June the James Irvine Foundation awarded the California Council for the Humanities (CCH) a \$250,000 grant to create a California Humanities Network (CHN).

Under the leadership of CCH Assistant Director Ralph Lewin, the Council intends to connect those organizations which have sought CCH funds and sponsored public humanities activities into a self-conscious network of public libraries, historical societies, museums, public radio and television stations, and community and cultural organizations.

The purpose of the network is to share best practices, to strengthen our collective voice in Sacramento, and to encourage collaborative projects and interchange both locally and statewide.

We at CCH are convinced that the time is right for a formal network to be created. First of all, the Sesquicentennial and CCH's deployment of programs creates a unique opportunity to identify members of that network. With museums and libraries already scheduled to present the "Gold Fever!" traveling exhibit or reading-and-discussion groups, and cultural organizations now contacting CCH to schedule "History Alive! Chautauqua" characters, CCH has already identified more than 75 prospective network members by their ability and willingness to present "Rediscovering California at 150" (RC150) programs. Our assumption is that this incipient network has the potential to include



James Quay

anywhere from 100 to 200 additional members statewide.

Second, a number of recent developments furnish clear reasons why such cultural organizations should meet and act as a network: the recent assault on both state and federal funding; the need for cooperation as this funding declines; new opportunities for cultural heritage tourism projects; the need for cultural organizations to demonstrate their economic impact and/or social relevance to the larger community; the competition for scarce public and foundation dollars. These developments have created a readiness for more cooperation, both locally and statewide, that the California Humanities Network will seek to engage.

The purpose of the network is to share best practices, to strengthen our collective voice in Sacramento, and to encourage collaborative projects and interchange both locally and statewide

Connecting the Network

CCH will first connect the network members through communications technology, developing a listserv as soon as possible so that members with e-mail capability can communicate with one another and with CCH.

The next task will be to survey the prospective members of the network, beginning with those organizations already participating in "RC150" projects. Finally, CCH will create an interactive website by early 1999 which would permit network members to exchange information, post public notices, comment on collaborative initiatives, and capture best practices.

Electronic communication is a necessary but not sufficient way to build a network, so CCH will also convene meetings of the network members. The first meeting, in winter 1999, will invite members of the prospective network to discuss: a) the primary needs and concerns of the members as disclosed by the survey; b) issues related to community heritage and local collaborations on cultural projects; c) interest in a multi-year statewide initiative to follow the Sesquicentennial; and d) the theme for that initiative.

Creating Community Discussions

In its fall newsletter, CCH will announce the details and deadlines for a new line of "community conversation grants." These grants, in amounts between \$500 and \$2,500, will be available to any nonprofit organization in California capable and willing to use humanities readings or

Continued on page eight.

National Arts and Humanities Month

October is National Arts and Humanities Month. We urge you to mark the occasion by attending and supporting cultural activities in your community throughout the month.

For a listing of some of the Council-sponsored humanities programs scheduled in California during October, please see the Humanities Calendar on pages five through seven.

Of special note are the cooperative programming efforts

going on throughout the Los Angeles area during October, as well as the Council's "History Alive! Chautauqua" programs that are currently being scheduled throughout the state.

Please also check with your local museums, historical societies, libraries, art galleries, colleges and universities, and other cultural organizations—and participate in the national celebration

of art and culture during the month of October.



National Arts
and Humanities
Month

October

Network

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The Council awards \$165,000 in major grants to 18 public humanities projects.

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Some themes of the "Gold Fever!" traveling exhibitpage 9

The Council's traveling exhibit will visit 18 museums during the next two and one-half years. It stimulates questions on a number of topics in California history.

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Sharleen Cooper Cohen establishes Council's first endowment fundpage 11

The California Council for the Humanities is a state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Humanities Network is published quarterly and mailed to anyone who requests it from the San Francisco office.

Grants Awarded

CALIFORNIA SESQUICENTENNIAL

The Forgotten Gold Rush

Sponsor: Joshua Tree National Park Association, Twenty-Nine Palms

Project Director: Ken Tinquist

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

The California Gold Rush opened the Mojave and Colorado deserts to miners, homesteaders, ranchers, and, later, governmental and recreational users. It changed the way people lived in and thought about an area once considered to be devoid life. These social, cultural, economic and environmental changes wrought by Gold Rush-era migration will be the subject of a modular, 16-panel traveling exhibit. The exhibit is the fruit of a unique collaboration among cultural organizations in the region, including the Cottowood Visitor Center in Joshua Tree National Park, the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twenty-Nine Palms, and the Needles Regional Museum. The exhibit is scheduled to open March 9, 1999 and will rotate among eight sites over the following 21 months.

The Golden Road to Freedom: African Americans in California, 1775-1900

Sponsor: Black Culture Day Committee, Sacramento

Project Director: Clarence Caesar

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

This award supports the first part in a three-part exhibition series highlighting the contributions of African Americans to the early development of California. Part one of the exhibit focuses on California's African Mexicans; part two will examine the lives and contributions of African Americans in California during and immediately after the Gold Rush. And part three explores the history of African American communities in California between 1870 and the turn of the century. The exhibit is scheduled for display at the California State Fair in Sacramento, the Los Angeles County Fair, the California State African American Museum in Los Angeles, and at California State University at Sacramento.

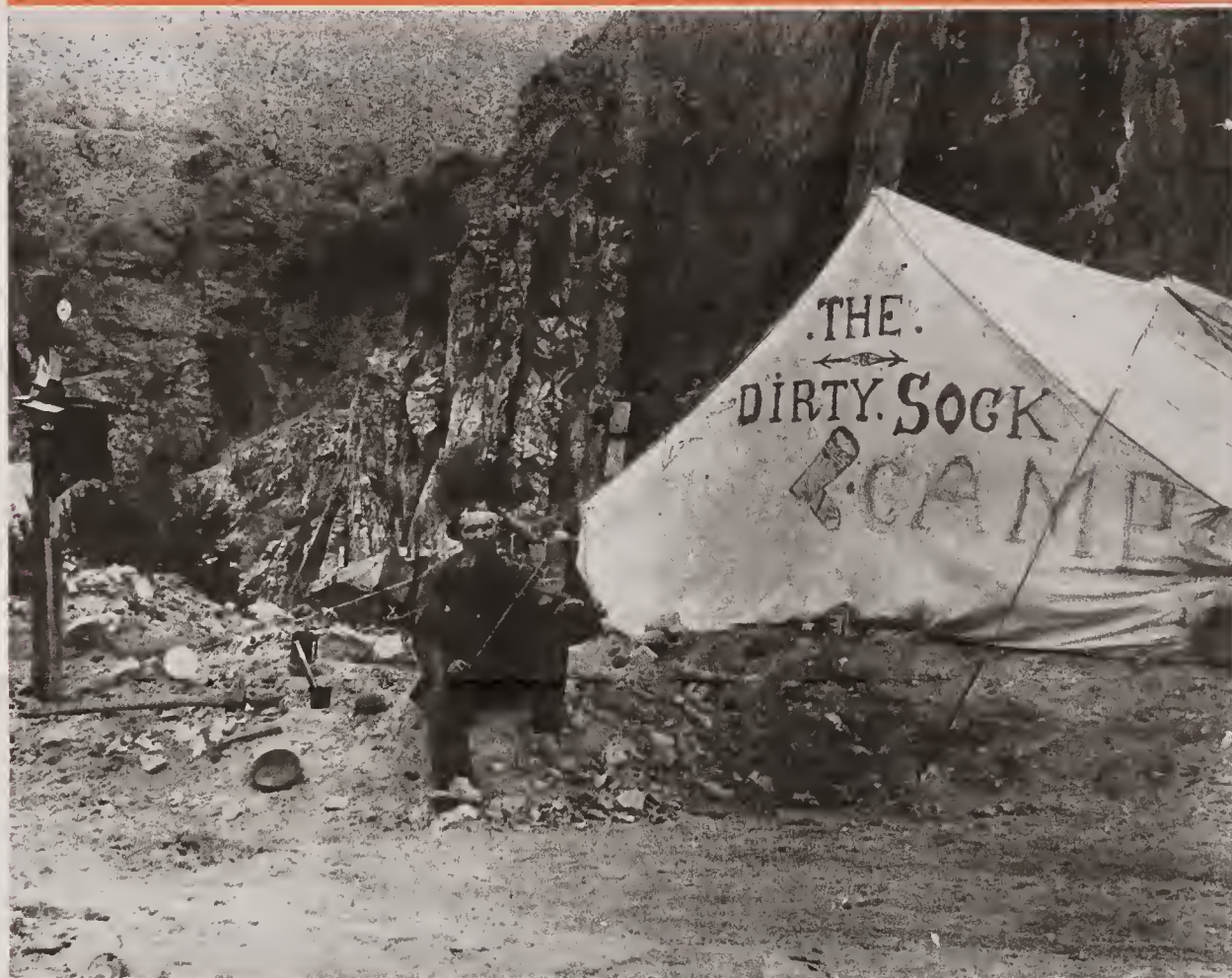
Picks, Plows, and Potatoes: The Impact of the Gold Rush on the Monterey Bay Region

Sponsor: Museum of Art and History, Santa Cruz

Project Director: Nikki Silva

Amount of Award: \$6,100 in outright funds

"Picks, Plows, and Potatoes" is a museum exhibition and a related public lecture series that uses the personal stories of Monterey Bay area Gold Rush-era residents to illuminate the larger issues and story of California's transformation that began with the U.S.-Mexican War and the discovery of gold and resulted in the admission of California to the Union. Lecture topics include "The California Environment Before and After the Gold Rush," "The Impact of the Gold Rush on Californios and Hispanics," "The Art, Photography, and Literature of the Gold Rush," and "Through the Eyes of Isabelle Meadows: Vignettes of Rumsien Ohlone Culture and History." The exhibit opens in October 1998. The first lecture in the series is scheduled for October 2, 1998.



From "The Forgotten Gold Rush." Eagle Eye McFarland in Pushwalla Canyon (located in Joshua Tree National Park), circa 1912. Photo courtesy of the Joshua Tree National Park Association.

Picturing California's Other Landscape: The Great Central Valley

Sponsor: The Haggin Museum, Stockton

Project Director: Heath Schenker

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

Over the past 150 years, California's Great Central Valley has been depicted in paintings, photographs, maps, engravings, film and video. Its landscapes have been portrayed as edenic wilderness, despoiled wasteland, natural cornucopia and engineered miracle. This visually rich exhibition, the centerpiece of the Haggin Museum's commemoration of the California Sesquicentennial, will examine what these contrasting images of the Central Valley reveal about our beliefs and assumptions about place, nature, property, and home. The exhibit is scheduled to open in Stockton in the Fall of 1999. A series of free public programs exploring the themes of the exhibition is also planned.

Politics of the Spirit: Portraits of Faith and Community in Los Angeles

Sponsor: Center for Religion and Civic Culture, USC, Los Angeles

Project Director: Donald E. Miller

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

This award supports the creation of a traveling exhibit of photographs by photographer Jerry Berndt exploring the role of religion in fostering civic participation. Focused on the work of faith-based communities to revitalize blighted neighborhoods of Los Angeles, the exhibit is designed to stimulate Californians to think more broadly about the role of religion in their state. The exhibit opens November 5 at Directors Guild Theater Complex, Hollywood. Project plans include lecture programs and discussions to coincide with opening events at each exhibit location.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Building Democracy in the Aftermath of the Cold War: Lessons from the Events and the Survivors

Sponsor: Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute, Berkeley

Project Director: Ann Fagan Ginger

Amount of Award: \$5,000 in outright funds

This award supported a public conference held in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The conference re-examined the history and legacies of the Cold War, including its social and economic impacts on California.



From "The Politics of the Spirit" exhibit. Stations of the Cross peace march through the streets of Pasadena by members of the Coalition for a Non-Violent City. Photo by J. Berndt.

Grants Awarded

The Literary History of San Diego

Sponsor: Congress of History of San Diego and Imperial Counties

Project Director: Charles Best

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

This grant supports a lecture/symposium series and a traveling exhibit that explore the literary history of San Diego, looking especially at the wide array of storytelling and writing traditions that have contributed to the region's rich cultural milieu. The six seminars will range from a presentation of oral traditions from the Kumeyaay and Luiseño period to contemporary avant garde literary efforts like the readings by the Taco Shop Poets. The traveling exhibit, designed for both adult and younger visitors, will reflect six distinct eras of San Diego's literary history. Seminar locations range from Mission Trails Regional Park to the Chinese Historical Museum to the Athenaeum in La Jolla. The exhibit is scheduled to travel to nine public library sites between October 1998 and June 1999. The first seminar is scheduled for October 9, 1998.



From "The Literary History of San Diego." The Chinese merchant Ah Quin and his family. Ah Quin's diaries, written between 1877 and 1894, comprise a wealth of San Diego history. Ah Quin was a merchant and labor contractor who was responsible for the establishment of the San Diego's Chinese community. Photo courtesy of Charles Best.

Defining Island Linkages: Northern California's Hawai'i Community

Sponsor: Center for Better Communities, Honolulu

Project Director: Romona K. Mullahey

Amount of Award: \$5,000 in outright funds

Hawai'i and California have been linked for more than two centuries, since James Cook came upon the island in his search for the Northwest Passage. With the discovery of gold in California, Hawai'i became an important supply base for the mining industry. As American interests increased in the Pacific, the relationship between Hawai'i and California increased, so that nearly 250,000 Californians trace their family roots to Hawai'i. This all-day symposium, scheduled for August 8, 1998, will examine the significance of cultural identity and the spirit of place and how they shape the Hawaiian communities of Northern California.

Through My Father's Eyes: Pioneers of the San Francisco Filipino American Community

Sponsor: Filipino American National Historical Society, Seattle

Project Director: Janet M. Alvarado

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

Photographer Ricardo Ocreto Alvarado (1914-1976) assembled an archive of more than 3,000 rare photographs and photo portraits in San Francisco during the 1940s and 1950s. His subjects come from the myriad ethnic communities of the city, and his work is remarkable for both the artistry of the photographs and the depiction of friendly, even intimate relations among these differing groups during a time of racial segregation. This grant supports an exhibit and a two-part symposium exploring the Filipino American experience in San Francisco and the U.S., as well as how Filipino Americans and other ethnic groups forge cross-cultural ties.

From the "Through My Father's Eyes" exhibit. San Francisco Farmers Market, circa 1950. Stall #46, with Bernal Heights in the background. The Filipina woman in native dress has been identified by the Molinari Farms as "Jackie." Now deceased, she lived in Half Moon Bay while working for the grower. Photo by Ricardo O. Alvarado, courtesy of Janet M. Alvarado.



MEDIA PROJECTS

SCRIPTS

Barrio Logan

Sponsor: UC San Diego Extended Studies and Public Programs

Project Director: Paul Espinosa

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

Just minutes from downtown San Diego, Barrio Logan is one of the city's oldest neighborhoods. It has long been the first stopping place for the region's newcomers, especially Mexican Americans and African Americans. This award supports script development for a documentary film exploring the inner life and the historical development of this community. The completed film will use home movies, family photographs, and interviews to create a dramatic portrait of one of San Diego's oldest neighborhoods.

The Whole World of Music: The Life and Times of Henry Cowell

Sponsor: Film Arts Foundation, San Francisco

Project Director: Sharon Wood

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

This script development project for a one-hour documentary film explores the life and work of California composer Henry Cowell. A controversial musical innovator, Cowell rejected the assumed superiority of Western music and incorporated musical influences from all over the world into his experimental compositions. He founded the San Francisco-based New Music Society, which published, recorded and promoted the work of such then-unknown talents as Charles Ives and Johanna Beyer. In 1936, Cowell was arrested and imprisoned on morals charges. The effect of his four-year imprisonment is still a topic of debate. Cowell continued to compose until his death. The completed film will also explore such larger issues as the relationship between innovation and tradition, as well as themes of tolerance, difference and the effects of repression on the creative spirit.

Class

Sponsor: Snitow-Kaufman Productions, Berkeley
Project Directors: Alan Snitow and Deborah Kaufman

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

Because it runs counter to the cherished American Dream of a classless society, social class has often been nearly impossible to discuss or describe. This script development project for a feature-length documentary will interweave personal stories, archival footage of historical events, and interviews with scholars to explore the complex intersections of class, race and gender. The project seeks to bring together participants from different backgrounds and communities to reframe key elements of the discussion and to uncover new definitions of concepts central to our ideas about class. Plans also include the creation of a study guide for classroom and community use.

Grants Awarded

The Anthropologist as Barbara Myerhoff

Sponsor: University of Southern California Center for Visual Anthropology, Los Angeles
Project Director: Deirdre Evans-Pritchard
Amount of Award: \$9,842 in outright funds
 During the 1970s, Barbara Myerhoff, professor of cultural anthropology at the University of Southern California, came to prominence for work on aging, juvenile delinquency, women's issues, and minority urban communities in Southern California. Her studies found expression in video and theatrical productions as well as scholarship, and culminated in the performance of "Number Our Days," a play that grew out of her work with the elderly Jewish community in Santa Monica. This award supports script development for a one-half hour video documentary that brings Myerhoff's work and the methods, values and meanings of cultural anthropology before the general public. The documentary aims to illustrate the important process by which other people's values, culture and history are researched, respected and presented.

An Armenian-American Family: The Karabians of Fresno

Sponsor: The Armenian Film Foundation, Thousand Oaks
Project Director: Barbara Gilmore
Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds
 This script development project for a half-hour documentary film explores themes of immigration and acculturation by tracing the history of the Karabian family in American. Now numbering nearly 300 people, the Karabian family arrived in the Fresno area in 1878 and has become one of the largest and most influential Armenian-American families in the U.S. The film will also illuminate the reasons why Armenians came and continue to come to California and explore issues of discrimination, intermarriage, assimilation, and social success.



Photo courtesy of the Armenian Film Foundation

Krikor Karabian, the patriarch of the Karabian family, who arrived in Fresno in 1896. This photograph was taken on the day he left Constantinople for America.

The Father of Gay Liberation: Harry Hay and the Founding of the American Gay Movement

Sponsor: Film Arts Foundation, San Francisco
Project Director: Eric Slade
Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds
 Harry Hay, an important figure in progressive politics in the 1930s and 1940s, founded the first homosexual rights organization, the Mattachine Society, in Los Angeles in the late 1940s. Later, forced out of the Mattachine Society for his prior Communist involvement, Hay continued to challenge and agitate, drawing fire from gays and straights alike for his controversial stands. This grant supports the development of a script for a one-hour video documentary about Hay and the beginning of the gay and lesbian movement in the United States.



From "Neighborhoods: The Hidden Cities of San Francisco." The Texas Playhouse, one of the many jazz clubs and bars in San Francisco's Fillmore District in the 1950s. The Fillmore became one of the West Coast's most vibrant African-American neighborhoods in the 1950s. From the Reggie Pettus/Red Powell Archive, courtesy of Lewis Watts and KQED-TV.

C O M P L E T I O N

Neighborhoods: The Hidden Cities of San Francisco, The Fillmore

Sponsor: KQED, Inc.
Project Director: Peter L. Stein
Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds
 In its 100-year history, San Francisco's Fillmore District has been both an early example of diversity and racial integration and a disastrous example of failed urban renewal. In 1942 its tightly knit Japanese-American community was removed wholesale. In the 1950s it became one of the West Coast's premier African-American communities. In the 1960s it was the locus of hotly contested battle over urban renewal, which left the district an odd mix of low income housing projects and gentrified Victorians. This award supports the completion of a 60-minute television documentary exploring the history of the Fillmore District. It will be the fourth episode in KQED's award-winning neighborhood series, which views San Francisco's past by examining the histories of its individual, highly differentiated neighborhoods.

Roots of Beauty: Pomo Basket Weaving Program and Archival Preservation

Sponsor: Sun House Guild, Inc., Ukiah
Project Directors: Jed Riffe and Sherrie Smith-Ferri
Amount of Award: \$10,000 in matching funds if \$20,000 is raised in outside gifts

Using rare archival footage, historic photographs and slides, and contemporary filmed interviews, this twenty-minute documentary video details how Pomo Indian weavers cultivate, manage, harvest and prepare various plant materials for use in their basketry. The beauty and technical excellence of Pomo basketry is made possible by the strength and flexibility of native plant materials used in construction, so Pomo weavers did not simply gather materials, but also managed and maintained populations of desirable plants. The completed film will not just describe the craftsmanship and artistry involved in creating these beautiful baskets but will also examine the sophistication of California Indian land use and management. The completed film will accompany the national tour of an exhibit on Pomo basketry.

R A D I O

The Malling of America

Sponsor: The Media Project,
Project Director: Barbara Bernstein
Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds
 This grant award supports two one-hour radio documentaries focusing on the environmental, economic, political and social forces vying to control the development agenda in the West. Using interviews with scholars, artists, environmental activists, conservative libertarians, planners, and inhabitants representing many points of view, the program will examine how traditional values of community and particular relationships with the land are being redefined as commercial development and suburbs reshape the western landscape. It will explore the work of groups like the Marin Agricultural Land Trust and the Big Sur Land Trust as new models for balancing demands for development and preservation. And it will look at two contrasting value systems: the traditional Jeffersonian view that land ownership is an inalienable right and that owners can do with their land as they see fit, without interference, versus a view held by many Native peoples that the land is something one cares for during one's lifetime but is for all people through time. The finished programs will be aired on community and public radio stations throughout California and the U.S.

SUMMER Calendar

The public humanities programs listed on these three pages were either created or supported by the California Council for the Humanities. Please note that dates and times should be confirmed with the local sponsors. These listings are often provided to CCH well before final arrangements are made.

Please also check the monthly calendar listings on the Council's world wide web pages at <http://www.calhum.org/>.

EXHIBITS

Thru July 26 **"Gold Fever! The Lure and Legacy of the California Gold Rush"** is a multidisciplinary exhibition of more than 1,000 artifacts, a theatrical audio guide, film footage, and a reconstructed archeological dig that examines the explosive impact of the Gold Rush on California's economy, population, environment and cultural diversity. Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak Street, Oakland. 510/238-2200.

Thru Aug. 7 **"Overland: The California Emigrant Trail of 1841-1870"** is a CERA-sponsored exhibit of modern photos of the remnants of pioneer trails juxtaposed with excerpts from emigrants' diaries and reminiscences. Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County, 1333 Butte House Road, Yuba City. 916/741-7141.

Thru Aug. 15 **"Photography and the Old West"** is a CERA-sponsored exhibit of historical photographs by 19th and 20th century photographers, many of whom came west to record official government geographical explorations and, later, the development of the railroads and other commercial enterprises. Napa Valley Museum, 55 President's Circle, Yountville. 707/944-0500.

Thru Aug. **"Pursuing New Frontiers: California Volunteers in the Spanish American War in the Philippines"** is an exhibit exploring the war and its import for U.S. Filipino relations. Visitor Center, Building 102, Presidio, San Francisco, 415/561-4323.

Thru Sept. 1 **"Ocean Boulevard: Community Landscapes"** is an exhibit examining the history of Long Beach's oceanfront boulevard. Historical Society of Long Beach, 418 Pine Avenue, Long Beach. 562/495-1210.

Aug. 1 - Sept. 15 **"Let Us March On!"** is an exhibit of photographs and accompanying historical information documenting the Civil Rights Movement (1955-1968). The photographs were taken by photojournalist Ernest C. Withers. Lompoc Museum, 200 South H Street, Lompoc. 805/736-3888.

Aug. 21 - Sept. 7 **"Afro-Mexicans in Early California, 1775-1848"** is the first of a three-part exhibit ("Golden Road to Freedom") exploring the history of African Americans in California from 1775 to 1900. California State Fair, Sacramento. 916/653-8902 for more information.

Sept. 1 - Oct. 25 **"Gold Fever! Untold Stories of the California Gold Rush"** is a Council-commissioned, multidimensional traveling exhibit about the California Gold Rush, adapted from the Oakland Museum's major "Gold Fever" exhibit, with additional displays about the Gold Rush's impact on the Napa Valley region. Napa Valley Museum, 55 President's Circle, Yountville. 707/963-7411.



From the Council's "Gold Fever!" Traveling Exhibit. Unknown Maker, "Miners Near Nevada City, 1852," Collection of the California State Library. "Gold Fever!"

opens in Redding and Yountville in September. The traveling exhibit was organized by the Oakland Museum and is based on the museum's major exhibit about the Gold Rush.

Sept. 6 - Nov. 8 **"Gold Fever! Untold Stories of the California Gold Rush"** is a Council-commissioned, multidimensional traveling exhibit about the California Gold Rush, adapted from the Oakland Museum's major "Gold Fever" exhibit, with additional displays about the Gold Rush's impact in the Redding area region. Redding Museum of Art & History, Redding. 530/243-8801.

Sept. 8 - May 31, 1999 **"Parallel Journeys: Migration to San Marcos, 1873-1998"** is an exhibit of photographs and artifacts that connects the migration and settling experience of early residents with that of more recent immigrants to the San Marcos Valley. San Marcos Historical Society and Museum, 270 W. San Marcos Blvd, San Marcos. 760/744-9025.



From the "Through My Father's Eyes" exhibit. "Migrant Farm Children," circa 1950. Photo by Ricardo O. Alvarado, courtesy of Janet M. Alvarado.

Sept. 9 - Nov. 30 **"Through My Father's Eyes: Pioneers of the San Francisco Filipino Community"** is an exhibit of photographs by Ricardo Alvarado taken in the 1950s and 1960s. The photographs portray aspects of the Filipino American community in San Francisco and provide a record cross-cultural exchange among the city's diverse ethnic communities Main Library, Civic Center, San Francisco 415/557-4282 or 415/543-???.

Sept. 10 - Nov. 27 **"Afro-Mexicans in Early California, 1775-1848"** is the first part of a three-part exhibit project ("Golden Road to Freedom") exploring the history of African Americans in California from 1775 to 1900. Los Angeles County Fair, Pomona. 916/653-8902.

Sept. 19 - Jan. 24, 1999 **"Gold Fever! The Lure and Legacy of the California Gold Rush,"** a major exhibit organized by the Oakland Museum, moves to the Autry Museum. The exhibit's more than 1,000 artifacts examine the explosive impact of the Gold Rush on California. Autry Museum of Western Heritage, 4700 Western Heritage Way, Los Angeles. 213/667-2000.



From the "Gold Fever!" exhibit now at the Autry Museum in Los Angeles. "Mountain Jack and a Wandering Miner," c. 1850, oil on canvas. By E. Hall Martin. From the collection of the Oakland Museum of California.

HUMANITIES Calendar

Sept. 10 – "Chance Encounters: The LA Project" is an interpretive exhibit and program featuring the work of photographer Douglas McCulloh. McCulloh's random "core samples" extend traditions of street photography, oral history, and social documentary and render a diverse, multilayered portrait of the people and places of the Los Angeles area. UC Riverside California Museum of Photography, 3824 Main Street, Riverside. 909/787-4787. www.cmp.ucr.edu



From the "Chance Encounters" exhibit. "Square: AAA86; Date: 6.23.96; Time Elapsed: 6:31; Mileage: 120.4" Photographer Douglas McCulloh has spent nearly 1,000 hours in Los Angeles County walking precise one-quarter-mile-square locations selected by chance operations. Photo by D. McCulloh, courtesy California Museum of Photography.

Sept. 27 – "Picks, Plows and Potatoes: the Santa Cruz Region During the Gold Rush," is a multifaceted exhibit examining life around the Monterey Bay 150 years ago and the changes wrought in the region by the discovery of gold in 1848. Museum of Art & History, 705 Front Street, Santa Cruz. 408/429-1964.

Nov. 1 – 30 **Motheread Literacy Exhibit Los Angeles.** Call Debra Colman for more information, 213/623-5993.

E V E N T S

July 30 – Aug. 2 The "Green and Gold: California Environments - Memories and Visions" conference features lectures, panel discussions, exhibits and events that examine the state's complex economic and environmental history. A special focus is the changing relationship of nature and human commerce over the last 150 years. College Eight, UC Santa Cruz. For information, 510/642-0326 or <http://www.cnr.berkeley.edu/departments/espm/env-hist/>.

Aug. 8 The "Defining Island Linkages: Migration, Cultural Identity, and Community" is a public conference examining aspects of Hawaiian culture in Northern California. 8:30 a.m. Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter Street, San Francisco. 415/956-0610 for more information.

Aug. 9 Daniel Lewis portrays **Charles Fletcher Lummis** (1859-1928), a leading figure in the cultural life of Southern California and an ardent promoter of the region, in a chautauqua performance at El Alisal, the arroyo stone home that Lummis himself built. 5 p.m. 200 East Avenue 43, Los Angeles. 213/222-0546.

Charles F. Lummis, 1889. Photo courtesy of the Southwest Museum.



Aug. 15 "Impact of the Gold Rush on California Indians from a Native American Perspective" is a lecture/discussion program featuring Joseph Myers, executive director of the National Indian Justice Center and Otis Parrish, a California Indian expert from the UC Berkeley anthropology department. 1 p.m. Presidio Visitor Center, Building 102, San Francisco Presidio. 415/561-3992.

Aug. 22 A "History Alive! Chautauqua in Lake Arrowhead." John Sutter, owner of the site where gold was first discovered in California, comes to life in a riveting portrayal by scholar/performer David Fenimore. Lake Arrowhead Fire Station, HWY 173 at lake entrance. For performance time and other info, 909/337-3118.

Sept. 4 "Becoming American," a documentary film, will be screened as part of the "Frame by Frame, Culture by Culture" series, which examines cultural differences in the U.S. Followed by a discussion led by Yer Thao. Ink People Center for the Arts, 411 Twelfth Street, Eureka. 707/442-8413.

Sept. 10 **Grant Proposal-Writing Workshop in Los Angeles.** 2 p.m. Instructions on how to apply for a grant from the Council. For information, call the Council's L.A. office at 213/623-5993.

Sept. 10 "History Alive! Chautauqua with General Vallejo" is a chautauqua presentation with Daniel Lewis portraying the "First Citizen of California," who held both military and civil authority over a vast area of Northern California during the Mexican period. 7 p.m. Benicia State Park, Vallejo. 707/745-3385.



General Mariano Vallejo as portrayed by Daniel Lewis. General Vallejo is one of thirteen Gold Rush-era figures the Council is bringing to life in its "History Alive! Chautauqua" program.

Sept. 12 Daniel Lewis portrays **Charles Fletcher Lummis** (1859-1928), a leading figure in the cultural life of Southern California and an ardent promoter of the region, in a chautauqua performance at the Southwest Museum, which Lummis founded in 1907. Lummis is credited with coining the term "Southwest." Noon. 34 Museum Drive, Los Angeles. 213/221-2164 xt231.

Sept. 12 A "History Alive! Chautauqua in Redding." John Sutter, owner of the site where gold was first discovered in California, comes to life in a riveting portrayal by scholar/performer David Fenimore. In conjunction with CCH's "Gold Fever!" traveling exhibit. 7 p.m. Paul Bunyon's Forest Camp outdoor amphitheater, Auditorium Drive, Redding. 530/243-8850.

Sept. 13-14 "The U.S.-Mexico War (1846-1848)," a four-part television documentary about the war that altered the shape of North America will be broadcast over two nights on public television. Check your local listings for broadcast times in your area.

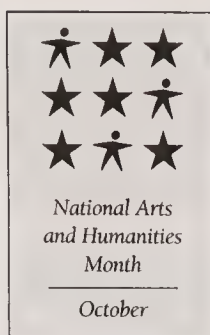


From "The U.S.-Mexico War." Image courtesy of the Special Collections Division of the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries.

Sept. 19 The "Through My Father's Eyes" Symposium explores topics related to an exhibit of photographs of San Francisco's Filipino-American community and other ethnic communities that were taken by Ricardo Alvarado in the 1950s and 1960s. Noon. Koret Auditorium, Main Library, Civic Center, San Francisco. Call 415/557-4282 or 415/543-0520 for more information.

Sept. 20 David Fenimore portrays **John Sutter**, owner of the site where gold was first discovered in California, in a "History Alive! Chautauqua in Yountville." In conjunction with the CCH "Gold Fever!" traveling exhibition. 2 p.m. Napa Valley Museum, 55 President's Circle, Yountville. 707/944-0500.

Sept. 30 Olga Loya portrays **Juana Briones**, one of early California's most prominent and successful women, in a "History Alive! Chautauqua in Artesia." 7 p.m. Albert O. Little Community Center, Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia. 562/865-6262.



October is National Arts and Humanities Month, a perfect time to visit and support cultural institutions in your community.

Oct. 2 **"An Overview of the California Gold Rush"** is a lecture by history professor Sandy Lydon in association with the "Picks, Plows and Potatoes: the Santa Cruz Region During the Gold Rush," Exhibit. 7 p.m. Museum of Art & History, 705 Front Street, Santa Cruz. 408/429-1964.

Oct. 2-3 **"History Alive! Chautauquans"** Dr. Yee Fung Cheung, Pio Pico, and Biddy Mason appear at various times over these two days. In conjunction with National Arts and Humanities Month and the "Gold Fever! The Lure and Legacy of the California Gold Rush" exhibition. Autry Museum of Western Heritage, 4700 Western Heritage Way, Los Angeles. 213/667-2000.

Oct. 3 **Los Angeles County Arts and Humanities Open House.** In celebration of National Arts & Humanities Month, the Los Angeles County Arts Commission coordinates a county-wide celebration of the arts and humanities at hundreds of participating institutions. All events are free and open to the public; many are supported by grants from the Council. For information, 213/974-1343 or visit the CAC website at www.lacountyarts.org.

Oct. 4 Historian Daniel Lewis portrays **Mariano Vallejo**, the most powerful leader in Northern California during the Mexican era and a California state senator in the American era, in a **"History Alive! Chautauqua in Sonoma."** 2 p.m. Sebastiani Theater, 476 first Street, Sonoma. 707/527-4723.

Oct. 4 **"Family Fun Day"** at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History will focus on topics related to the "Picks, Plows and Potatoes: the Santa Cruz Region During the Gold Rush," Exhibit. It will also feature music by the Gold Rush Sisters. Noon. 705 Front Street, Santa Cruz. 408/429-1964

Oct. 5 Historian Daniel Lewis portrays **Mariano Vallejo**, the most powerful leader in Northern California during the Mexican era and a California state senator in the American era, in a **"History Alive! Chautauqua in Sonoma."** 7:30 p.m. Petaluma Center, Santa Rosa Junior College, Petaluma. 707/778-3974.

Oct. 8 **Peter Bacho**, a professor at the University of Washington and at Evergreen State University will present a slide/lecture program in association with the **"Through My Father's Eyes"** exhibit. Poet/historian Al Robles will also participate. 6 p.m. Koret Auditorium, Main Library, Civic Center, San Francisco. Call 415/557-4282 or 415/543-0520 for more information.

Oct. 9 **"Murray Avenue,"** a documenetary film, will be screened as part of the "Frame by Frame, Culture by Culture" series, which examines cultural differences in the U.S. Followed by a discussion led by musician and teacher Judy Schamberg. Ink People Center for the Arts, 411 Twelfth Street, Eureka. 707/442-8413.



Yee Fung Cheung, as portrayed by Charlie Chin. Yee Fung is one of thirteen Gold Rush-era figures the Council is bringing to life in its "History Alive! Chautauqua" program.

Oct. 10 A **"History Alive! Chautauqua in Weaverville."** Scholar/performer Charlie Chin portrays **Yee Fung Cheung**, the renowned Gold Rush-era herbalist and healer. 10:30 a.m. Joss House State Historic Park, HWY299 West, Weaverville. 530-623-5284.

Oct. 10 **"Kumeyaay/Luiseño Period: Antiquity to the Present"** is a public seminar on the written and oral traditions of the Native peoples in the San Diego area. It is the first program in the "Literary History of San Diego" project. 1 p.m. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Junipero Serra Trail, San Diego. 619/235-1120 or 619/688-3276 for more information.

Oct. 11 Daniel Lewis portrays **Charles Fletcher Lummis** (1859-1928), a leading figure in the cultural life of Southern California and an ardent promoter of the region, in a chautauqua performance at the Los Angeles Public Library, Central Branch. Lummis was L.A. city librarian from 1905-1910. 2 p.m. 630 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles. 213/228-7225.

Oct. 15 **"Through the Eyes of Isabella Meadows"** is a lecture by Linda Yamane about Native American life in early California. In association with the "Picks, Plows and Potatoes: the Santa Cruz Region During the Gold Rush," Exhibit. 7 p.m. Museum of Art & History, 705 Front Street, Santa Cruz. 408/429-1964.

Oct. 20 Scholar/performer Charlie Chin portrays **Yee Fung Cheung**, the renowned Gold Rush-era herbalist and healer in a **"History Alive! Chautauqua in Lodi."** Lodi Public Library, 201 W. Locust Street, Lodi. 209/333-8507 for exact time.

Oct. 23 **Matthew Fox**, a noted theologian and religious studies scholar, lectures on the life and significance of the eleventh-century German mystic Hildegard of Bingen. In conjunction with the "A Feather on God's Breath: Hildegard of Bingen After 900 Years" conference. 8 p.m. Student Events Center, CSU San Bernardino, 5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino. 909/880-5586.

Oct. 24 A **"History Alive! Chautauqua in San Francisco."** Scholar/performer Charlie Chin portrays **Yee Fung Cheung**, the renowned Gold Rush-era herbalist and healer. 11 a.m. National Maritime Museum, Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco. 888/543-4434.

Oct. 24 **"Living History Day at Evergreen Cemetery"** will focus on themes from the "Picks, Plows and Potatoes: the Santa Cruz Region During the Gold Rush," Exhibit at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History. 2:30 p.m. Evergreen Cemetery, Evergreen & Coral streets, Santa Cruz. 408/429-1964.

Oct. 29 **"Art and Literature of the Gold Rush"** is a lecture by novelist Jim Houston. In association with the "Picks, Plows and Potatoes: the Santa Cruz Region During the Gold Rush," Exhibit. 7 p.m. Museum of Art & History, 705 Front Street, Santa Cruz. 408/429-1964.

Nov. 2 **Denise Lugo**, director and chief curator of the Latino Museum of History, Arts and Culture, gives a slide presentation on the significance of El Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebrations. Napa Valley College, 707-257-2117 for more information.

Nov. 6 **"People of the Klamath, Pt. 1"** a documentary film, will be screened as part of the "Frame by Frame, Culture by Culture" series, which examines cultural differences in the U.S. Followed by a discussion led by Karuk scholar Julian Lang. Ink People Center for the Arts, 411 Twelfth Street, Eureka. 707/442-8413.

Nov. 7 Olga Loya portrays **Juana Briones**, one of early California's most prominent and successful women, in a **"History Alive! Chautauqua in San Mateo."** 2 p.m. San Mateo County Historical society, 1700 W. Hillsdale Blvd., San Mateo. 650/574-6441.



Juana Briones, as portrayed by Olga Loya. Briones is one of thirteen Gold Rush-era figures the Council is bringing to life in its "History Alive! Chautauqua" program.

CALIFORNIA HUMANITIES NETWORK *Continued*

programs as the bases of townhall meetings. Humanities advisors will be asked to make connections between the community's history and a contemporary community issue or issues.

CCH will publish a simple conversation guide featuring questions which connect the readings in the anthology *Gold Rush: A Literary Exploration* and the lives of the thirteen History Alive! Chautauqua characters the Council has developed to contemporary community issues. The guide will feature a list of discussion questions which connect historical issues with contemporary community issues. The questions can be used in any of the communities hosting reading-and-discussion groups and History Alive! presentations as an aid to subsequent meetings or as part of the "community heritage projects" described below.

Community Heritage Projects

A major objective of the California Humanities Network is to encourage and enable collaboration locally between the cultural organizations who will be part of the network.

The variety of "RC150" program formats – exhibit, reading-and-discussion, Chautauqua presentation – creates an opportunity for cultural organizations in a given area to work together to enhance one another's audiences and create

a critical mass of publicity for several events.

CCH will publish a preliminary "Community Heritage Project Guidebook" by February 1, 1999, posting it on the new CHN website and in print versions. This guide will offer a range of possible models for community heritage projects at a variety of different scales based on CCH-funded and CCH-conducted projects over the past decade.

This fall, CCH will issue a request for proposals (RFP) to conduct year-long collaborative community heritage projects during 1999-2000. These projects will require cooperation between two or more cultural organizations in an area. They could include activities that collect and preserve community heritage but they would require activities that transmit that heritage to public audiences and would favor activities that would bring diverse audiences together. They could use existing humanities programming (e.g., "Rediscovering California at 150" programs) or create new programs, but the programs would be required to find links between the past and present community issues.

Community heritage will be defined as broadly as possible – community need not be restricted to a geographical community. Drawing on its experience in creating community projects like "Searching for San Diego," CCH will provide a set of indices for

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This fall, CCH will issue a request for proposals (RFP) to conduct year-long collaborative community heritage projects during 1999-2000.

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defining and assessing a community heritage project: size and diversity of audience; interest of public agencies and officials; stimulation of subsequent collaborative projects; changes in public opinion; impact on site-specific problems.

CCH will strongly encourage prospective applicants to apply for and use planning grants in developing their proposals. CCH will offer grants up to \$2,500 for activities to develop and plan community heritage projects, enabling local groups to meet among themselves, bring in consulting humanities scholars, and pay for communication and travel in the development of their proposals.

Full proposals will be accepted at a July 1999 deadline for awards up to \$50,000. Each award will have to be matched dollar-for-dollar by cash or in-kind contributions from local organizations and have the required features of a community heritage project indicated above. "Rediscovering California at 150" pro-

grams can either serve as preludes to or part of locally-initiated and designed community heritage projects.

The legacies of this California Humanities Network project range from the specific – the creation of the community conversation guide and guidebook for community heritage projects – which can be used and reused, to the diverse – community heritage programs large and small which create occasions for public discussion of community issues and for collaboration between local cultural organizations – to the connective – a statewide network of cultural organizations with proven capacity for presenting such programs and a commitment for presenting them in the future.

At the very first conversation with the Irvine Foundation, CCH was asked to "think big." We at CCH are grateful for the opportunity to dream our own version of the California dream and look forward to the opportunity to make the dream a reality.

OAKLAND MUSEUM'S "GOLD FEVER!" EXHIBITION TRAVELS TO L.A.

Los Angeles area residents will have an opportunity to see the Oakland Museum's major GOLD FEVER! *Lure and Legacy of the California Gold Rush* exhibit beginning in September. The exhibit, which is the basis for the Council's traveling "Gold Fever!" exhibit, opens at the Autry Museum of Western Heritage in Los Angeles on September 19 and continues there until January 24, 1999.

GOLD FEVER! *Lure and Legacy of the California Gold Rush* contains nearly 1,000 artifacts, including the gold nugget discovered by James Marshall that launched the Gold Rush, the stern of the famous Gold Rush ship "Niantic" (the bow still rests under San Francisco), and a miner's hand-hewn log cabin.

Through interactive exhibits, evocative tableaux, and an innovative audio guide, "Gold Fever!" brings to life sights and sounds of an era marked by stories of courage, endurance, and tragedy. For more information contact the Autry Museum of Western Heritage at 213/667-2000.



From the "Gold Fever!" exhibit. "Lugo Family at Rancho in Bell, California," 1888. Unknown photographer. Collection of the Seaver Center for Western History Research, Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History



From the "Gold Fever!" exhibit. Faro scorekeeper, six shot pepperbox percussion revolver, California poker deck, drinking glass, and checkerboard game box. Courtesy of the Oakland Museum of California.



From the "Gold Fever!" exhibit. "Spanish Flat," 1852. Attributed to J.B. Starkweather. Quarter plate daguerreotype. Collection of the California State Library.

A GUIDE TO THEMES IN THE GOLD FEVER! TRAVELING EXHIBIT

The Council's "Gold Fever!" traveling exhibit tells California's Gold Rush stories – familiar and new – and explores the effects the events of 150 years ago continue to have on us today. Here are some of the themes to exhibit explores.



A panel from the Gold Fever! traveling exhibit showing Charles Christian Nahl's painting "Sunday Morning in the Mines," 1872. Oil on canvas. The original painting is in the E.B. Crocker Collection of the Crocker Art Museum.

Daily Life

Hopeful forty-niners rushed to California with visions of gilded promise, but life in the gold fields exposed a miner to loneliness and homesickness, isolation, physical danger – and even death. Fortune may have been around the corner, but so was failure. Opportunity might be found in "mining the miners" – providing goods and services for a growing population. Far from home and family, in a new country, people sought to create a new life and in the process, created new communities and new ways of doing business. For those whose families had been in California for a long time, life would never be the same.



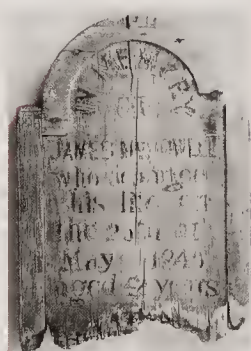
"Hydraulic Mining, North Bloomfield, Nevada County, California," circa 1870. By Carleton E. Watkins. Collection of the California State Library, courtesy of the Oakland Museum of California.

Diversity

Primeval California was a unique and extraordinarily diverse natural environment, with a remarkable range of geography and geology, of plant and animals, of weather and natural resources. California was inhabited or visited by many different peoples before gold was discovered, each with their own system of values. Native California Indians, trappers, traders, colonists and immigrants – who was a Californian? What did "California" mean to each of them?

Environment

Although gold was still the most sought-after resource, California was richly endowed with many other resources. In the pursuit of gold, little concern was expressed for the environmental consequences. Hydraulic mining washed soil into streams and rivers. Mercury escaped into the rivers and entered the food chain. Decades of legal battles between miners and farmers eventually resulted in controls on mining and in the emergence of agriculture as the state's major industry.



"Wood Grave Marker, 1849. The Oakland Museum of California, gift of Lowell J. Hardy.



"Miners Near Nevada City," 1852. Unknown maker. Collection of the California State Library.

Technology

Some early fortune-seekers brought experience and technology that they had applied to gold and silver mining elsewhere. The tools, equipment, engineering and effort required to get at the gold became more elaborate as the supply of readily available ore dwindled. The independent prospector soon gave way to the large mining company. This approach to dealing with problems on a massive scale was eventually applied to other challenges – water projects, railroad and highway development, and even agribusiness.

Legacy of the Gold Rush

The Gold Rush unleashed forces that propelled California to immense growth and development. It sparked hopes and dreams, as well as myth and legends, that have shaped the popular conception of California as the "Golden State." Other rushes and booms have followed in various parts of California, from agriculture in the Central Valley and Southern California to high technology in the Silicon Valley. These legacies are a mixture of triumphs and troubles, as not everyone has shared equally in the California dream.



"Montgomery Street, San Francisco." 1851. Daguerreotype. The Oakland Museum of California.



"Portrait of a Chinese Man," circa 1851. By Isaac Wallace Baker. The Oakland Museum of California.



"Portrait of an Indian Boy," c. 1851. Isaac Wallace Baker. Sixth plate daguerreotype. The Oakland Museum of California.

Connections to Today

New waves of immigrants still come in search of a better future, seeking not gold but opportunity. Does the promise of the California Dream still continue? What have we learned from the past that can help to shape the future of the "Golden State"?

(This text on themes is a collaborative effort between the CCH CERA program and the Oakland Museum of California)

Traveling Exhibit Schedule 1998 and Early 1999

Sept. 1 - October 25, 1998

Napa Valley Museum
55 President's Circle
Yountville
707/963-7411

September 6 - November 15, 1998

Redding Museum of Art & History
56 Quartz Hill Road
Redding
530/243-8801

November 6, 1998 - January 8, 1999

Sonoma County Museum
425 Seventh Street
Santa Rosa
707/579-1500

November 20, 1998 - January 17, 1999

Tulare Historical Museum
44-4 West Tulare Avenue
Tulare
209/686-2074

January 19 - March 28, 1999

Fresno City Hall
(Presented by Fresno City and
County Historical Society)
209/441-0826

January 24 - April 11, 1999

Chico Museum
141 Salem Street
Chico
916/821-4336

GOLD FEVER! Untold Stories of the California Gold Rush was commissioned by the California Council for the Humanities (CCH) as part of its "Rediscovering California at 150" Sesquicentennial initiative. Accompanying presentations and public humanities programs were developed jointly by CCH and the California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA). CERA is a CCH-sponsored humanities network of community-based museums throughout California.

The GOLD FEVER! traveling exhibition was made possible by funding from the California Council for the Humanities and by a generous grant from Wells Fargo.

The traveling exhibition was organized and produced by the Oakland Museum of California. It is adapted from the museum's major Sesquicentennial exhibition: GOLD FEVER! The Lure and Legacy of the California Gold Rush.

Humanities News

Council Will Meet in Sacramento in September

The California Council for the Humanities quarterly meeting has tentatively been scheduled for Friday, September 18 at the Golden State Museum in Sacramento. The meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. For confirmation and additional details, please contact the San Francisco office at 415/391-1474.

Board Nominations Sought

The Council will be selecting several new members for its board in 1999. We invite the public to nominate outstanding individuals for the position. Council members serve three-year terms that are renewable once. If you are interested in nominating someone to the Council's board, please see the nomination announcement and coupon on page eleven of this newsletter. Nominations and all supporting materials must be received in the Council's San Francisco office by Friday, October 9.

Proposal-Writing Workshops Offered

The Council's program staff has scheduled proposal-writing workshops for people interested in applying for the Council's grants in the public humanities. The next deadline for major grants is October 1.

In San Francisco:

For Public Project proposals

Tuesday, August 18 10 a.m. to Noon

For Media Project proposals

Wednesday, August 19 10 a.m. to Noon

In Los Angeles:

Thursday, September 10 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday, November 19 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

These workshops will be held at the Council's Los Angeles office. For information about upcoming workshops in San Luis Obispo, Lompoc, Santa Barbara, and Ventura, call the Los Angeles office at the number listed below.

In San Diego:

Wednesday, August 12 10 a.m. to Noon

Education room, Junipero Serra Museum, Presidio Drive, San Diego.

The proposal-writing workshops are free, but advance registration is required. Please call the nearest Council office (415/391-1474 in San Francisco, 213/623-5993 in Los Angeles, and 619/232-4020 in San Diego) to register and confirm dates and locations. Please also request and read the current *Guide to the Grant Program* before attending the workshop.

Lisa Ericksen is the Council's New Museum Programs Coordinator

Lisa Ericksen has been hired as the Council's museum programs coordinator. She will be responsible for the California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA), a Council program that supports a statewide network of community-based museums, as well as for the development of traveling museum exhibitions related to the Council's own programs and projects.

Before joining the Council staff on July 13, Ms. Ericksen was development associate at the Oakland Zoo. Prior to that Ms. Ericksen was special events and membership coordinator for the Lawrence Hall of Science. Between 1992 and 1994 she served as the executive director of the Benicia Camel Barn Museum and as assistant director of the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum. She holds a bachelor's degree in history from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a master's degree in museum studies from John F. Kennedy University. Lisa may be reached at the Council's San Francisco office at 415/391-1474.

Hearst Foundation Awards \$50,000 to CERA.

The Council's California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA) has received a \$50,000 grant from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation in San Francisco. CERA is a humanities network of smaller community-based museums and cultural institutions throughout California. It provides member institutions with technical support and high-quality public programs and exhibitions. The Hearst Foundation award will support CERA in its efforts to develop new programs and exhibits of importance to Californians and to reach new audiences throughout the state.

Internships Available

The Council has a number of internships available for humanities undergraduate, graduate and recently graduated students. These opportunities are available in all the Council's San Francisco and Los Angeles offices. To find out more, interested students should contact Debra Colman or Felicia Kelley in Los Angeles (213/623-5993) or Alden Mudge in San Francisco (415/391-1474).

What They Are Thinking

A Humanities Profile

Name: Philip Goff

Occupation: Historian

Vital statistics: Born in Fort Myers, Florida 1964; B.A. Religion, Nyack College, 1986; M.A. Religious Studies, Univ. of Kansas, 1988; Ph.D. American Religious History, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Currently Assistant Professor of History and Religious Studies and Director, Liberal Studies Program, CSU, Los Angeles.



Recent honor: One of ten people chosen for the 1994-1996 Young Scholars in American Religion program at the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture in Indianapolis. "It was a wonderful experience. In fact, nine of us in that group are working together on an essay collection entitled *Themes in American Religion and Culture*. We want readers to walk away from it with a good understanding of the role religion has played in American history, through politics, through gender, through economics, and so on. We cover twelve separate themes."

An early love for music: "In first grade I started out playing violin. When I was living in Florida, I was chosen along with three other boys to travel throughout the state with a man who conducted an orchestra. We were known as the Four Little Fiddlers. By the time I was in fourth grade, I no longer wanted to travel and play the violin in front of people so I took up the piano, and the saxophone for a while. Sad to say, it's very symbolic that in graduate school I sold my saxophone to buy a computer."

Why religious studies: "I grew up in a religious tradition. When I was in college I initially studied to be a minister. After finishing my B.A., I realized I did not want to be a minister. But I had been in religious school from fourth to twelfth grade and then four years of college, so my interest continued to be religion. By the time I started my doctoral work, I had divorced myself from my traditions in ways that may not have been really healthy overall. I thought I could look at religion like a social scientist. Ultimately, I realized that what drew me into the study of religion was that it is a human experience I share. Now here we are at the end of the millennium, and people are very interested in religion. Films are coming out now about the destruction of the world, one of which is named *Armageddon*, which is the biblical term for the final battle. It speaks to the buried interest in American culture about religion. Religion plays an important part in our society, sometimes for good, sometimes for ill. I enjoy educating not just my students but the broader public. I really want to put religion on the front burner of what people talk about."

A current project: A forthcoming book called *The Soul of John Adams*. "I haven't come to bury Adams, I've come to praise him. Without deifying him, I'm trying to reestablish Adams' relationship to American history. There's an old saying that goes 'George Washington was the sword of the revolution; Tom Paine was the pen of the revolution; and Thomas Jefferson and John Adams were the mind of the revolution.' All we've really talked about is the mind of Thomas Jefferson. While Jefferson said wonderful things, he didn't always perform up to the standard. Jefferson died \$100,000 in debt; Adams, on the other hand, was never in debt. Jefferson wrote that all men are created equal and owned 200 slaves; Adams never owned a slave. He lived by his principles. In many ways the mind of Adams is far more representative of what the United States would become. America is not just secular nor is it just religious; it is a strange hybrid. Adams grew up in Puritan New England, but during the Enlightenment. He challenged traditional beliefs and was able to hew a middle path between Puritanism and Enlightenment rationalism that I think is reflective of American culture. Adams initially went to Harvard to become a minister, but in his last year saw his minister put on trial for heresy for basically believing what Adams believed. Adams served a short stint as a school teacher before going into law and politics. But it's important to note that his religious beliefs shaped a very independent spirit in him that he then used to fight for American independence."

- Interview by Louise Hennessy.

Membership and Development News

OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBER, SHARLEEN COOPER COHEN, ESTABLISHES CCH's FIRST ENDOWMENT FUND.



Photo by Harry Langdon Photography

Everyone at the Council is deeply grateful to outgoing Council Member, Sharleen Cooper Cohen, for her generous gift of \$10,000 to establish the Council's first Endowment Fund. We are also excited to report that that gift has been matched by an additional \$10,000 from her husband, Martin L. Cohen, M.D. in honor of his wife's birthday – bringing the total Endowment Fund to \$20,000!

At Cooper Cohen's request, the first two years' earnings on the Fund will be used to assist in efforts to increase visibility for Council programs.

To learn more about how you can contribute to the Sharleen Cooper Cohen Endowment Fund, start your own fund – or otherwise help vital humanities programs like:

◆ **California History Alive!**

Chautauqua which introduces Californians of all ages to exciting and under-recognized historical figures like Mary Ellen Pleasant, the "Mother of Civil Rights in California" and Gold Rush-Era Chinese Herbalist, Dr. Yee Fung Cheung.



Photo by Mike Blumenstandt

◆ **MOTHEREAD**, the Council's uniquely effective literacy program for the whole family;

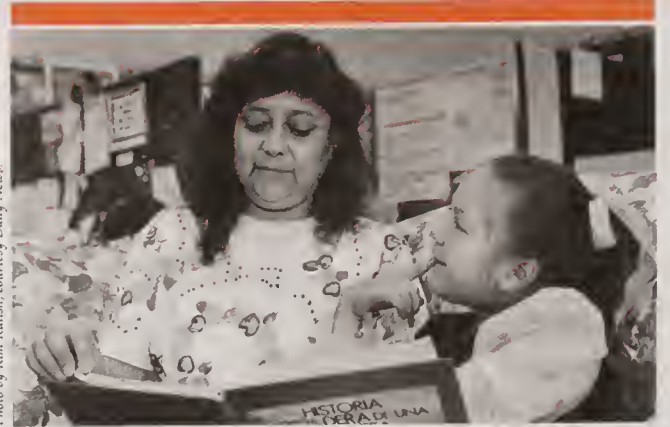


Photo by Kim Kulish, courtesy Daily News

◆ And **CERA** (The California Exhibition Resources Alliance) which makes possible Traveling Exhibits like Gold Fever! that reach Californians in diverse communities throughout the state.

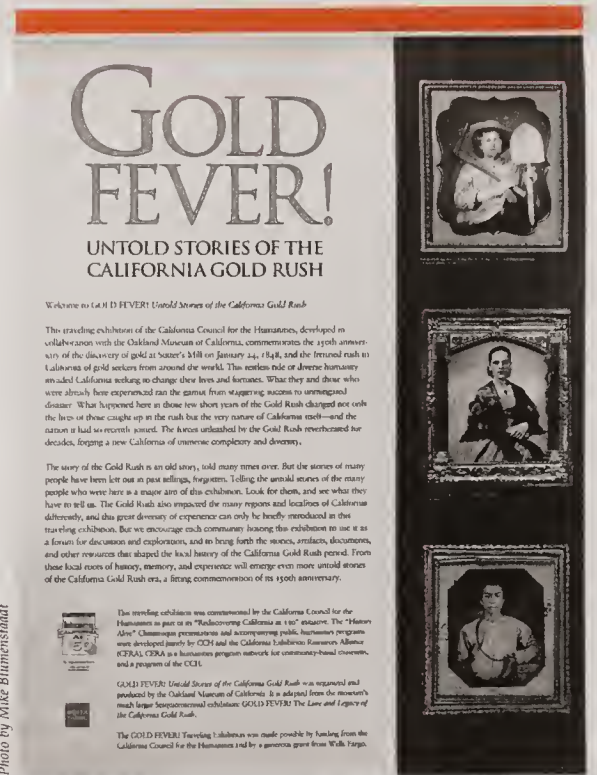


Photo by Mike Blumenstandt

**Please call:
Julie Levak, Director
of Development at
415/391-1474**

Nominations Invited

The California Council for the Humanities, an organization that creates and supports public programs exploring human cultures, histories and values throughout California, will be selecting several new members in 1999 and invites nominations from the public.

Council members are leaders drawn from public and academic life. Members serve three-year terms, renewable once.

The Council seeks outstanding board members from any part of the state, but to ensure that it reflects California's diverse geographical, ethnic and professional constituencies, this year the Council particularly welcomes nominations of Latinos

You are invited to submit names of citizens and scholars who are committed to advancing the humanities in public life. To do so, please complete the nomination form below and submit the following supporting materials:

1. A brief resume from the nominee.
2. A statement indicating the nominee's occupation, education, areas of public service, and special qualifications for membership.
3. A letter of recommendation (from someone other than yourself), if you are recommending yourself, or assurance that the nominee is willing to serve, if you are nominating another.

The Council anticipates up to 5 vacancies next year. Be sure to make the strongest case you can for your nominee. Nominations must be received in the Council's San Francisco office no later than Friday, October 9, 1998.

Please note: No nomination will be considered without the requisite supporting materials

I nominate: _____
as a member of the California Council for the Humanities

Address: _____
City: _____ California Zip Code: _____
Nominee's professional title: _____ Phone: _____

Nominated by: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Professional title: _____ Phone: _____

Mail Nominations to: CCH, 312 Sutter Street, Suite 601, San Francisco, CA 94108

CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

The humanities explore human histories, cultures, and values. They inform the conversations that are vital to a thriving democracy. They provide a context for people to understand one another. They constitute our most important human inheritance.

The purpose of the California Council for the Humanities is to create a state in which all Californians have lifelong access to this shared inheritance. The Council's mission is to lead in strengthening community life and fostering multicultural understanding throughout California, through programming which provides access to the texts and insights of the humanities council. It is an independent state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and operates as a public-private partnership rather than a governmental agency.

From 1998 to 2000, the Council will encourage and develop compelling public programming commemorating the events that led to the founding of the state of California 150 years ago and examining the continuing impact of these events today. The Council's own "Rediscovering California at 150" Sesquicentennial programs will include statewide chautauqua programs featuring in-person portrayals of major figures of the era; the creation of a Gold Rush anthology (published by Heyday Books) and statewide reading and discussion groups focusing on that anthology, a traveling Gold Rush museum exhibition with the Oakland Museum; and, a statewide conference focusing on key Sesquicentennial topics.

Council programs also include the California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA) which provides administrative support and a means for sharing exhibits among members of a network of smaller museums, and Motherhood, a family reading program in Los Angeles.

In addition, the Council conducts a competitive grants program. Since 1975, it has awarded more than \$13 million to over 2,000 non-profit organizations, enabling them to produce exhibits, film and radio programs, and lecture series and conferences on topics significant to California.

The Council is an independent, not-for-profit organization. It is supported by grants from NEH, corporations and foundations, and by contributions from individuals.

Major grant proposals are due on April 1 and October 1. Quick Grants - proposal planning grants, minigrants, film-and-speaker grants - are accepted on the first day of each month. Interested non-profit organizations should request a copy of the Guide to the Grant Program from the San Francisco office.

Page proofs for this publication were created on equipment donated by Apple Computer.

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